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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

Albany, New York

April 22, 1964

MARTIN BORMANN

Nazi Germany War Criminal
Information Concerning

On April 20, 1964, a confidential source, who is a professional writer, stated that he was hired by Alex D'Arbeloff of New York City to go to Brazil, take pictures and write articles for publicity purposes in connection with land he had supposedly purchased there. He said the only address he ever had for D'Arbeloff was Hotel Shelton, Lexington Avenue, New York City, telephone number PLaza 5-7916.

He said D'Arbeloff had supposedly formed an American real estate company which was sponsored by Previews, Inc., New York City, to construct a Texas ranch and Texas-type town in Brazil's interior in the State of Mato Grosso.

Source claimed he took the job and met D'Arbeloff at the Shelton Hotel, New York City, in October, 1957, where D'Arbeloff presented him with a round trip ticket to Brazil, along with a bundle of money which turned out to be old Brazilian money that was worthless. He said he was on his way to the airport at the time and, therefore, did not look at the money until after he arrived in Rio de Janeiro.

Upon arrival in Rio he met one Mike Bormann whose address at that time was 2112 Avenida Atlantica, Apartment 902, Rio de Janeiro. Bormann, according to source was supposedly a partner of D'Arbeloff and he told him that the whole scheme was to obtain 2 million dollars out of rich Americans. He said through Bormann he ascertained that the land was only leased land and was practically worthless. D'Arbeloff was planning to sell shares to rich Americans and make a killing for himself.

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(2)(G) Foreign Relations ☐

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He said for his part he was to take pictures and write articles to be used in the United States for advertising and was even asked to pose for pictures himself as a landowner, which he refused to do.

Source stated he finished his job there but never did write up the stories as the whole thing fell through shortly thereafter. He said he advised Senator George Aiken, Putney, Vermont, upon his return to the States who asked source to write up an article for him, but source claims he never did.

Source said he is bringing this matter to the attention of the FBI in view of the fact he read an article in the March 20, 1964 issue to the "New York Herald Tribune" newspaper which stated that Martin Bormann, Nazi German war criminal and well known henchman of Adolph Hitler, is believed dead. He said he believes that the person that he knew as Mike Bormann could be Martin Bormann, referred to in this news article. He said Bormann was in his late 40's or early 50's, had a swarthy complexion, pock marked face, was thick set, had dark hair and spoke excellent English without accent. He said he had a male secretary by the name of Dimitri (last name unknown), an Armenian with thin red hair, red mustache and beard. Bormann, according to source, was a brutal type of individual who, in his opinion, could have been Bormann the Nazi war criminal.

Source was exhibited a photograph of Martin Bormann which he said he could not identify as being the person he knew as Mike Bormann. Source stated, however, that the person he knew was much older, but did have some similar features.

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